

What I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A system for information management, which system comprises a central unit (4) and a plurality of user units (2) which are arranged to record and send information to the central unit (4), c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that

particulars are stored in the central unit (4) about a plurality of regions (101-105), each of which represents an area on at least one imaginary surface (5),

each of the user units (2) is arranged to record information which comprises at least one position on the imaginary surface (5) and to send the information to the central unit (4), and

the central unit (4) is arranged, in response to the receipt of the information from a user unit (2), to identify to which region (101-105) said at least one position belongs and to determine how the information is to be managed based on the region affiliation.

2. A system according to claim 1, in which for each of said regions (101-105) particulars are stored in the central unit (4) about an owner of the region (101-105).

3. A system according to claim 1 or 2, in which rules for each region (101-105) are stored in the central unit (4) for how the information which is identified as belonging to the region (101-105) is to be managed.

4. A system according to claim 1, 2 or 3, in which the central unit (4) is arranged to forward the information which is received from the user unit (2) to a recipient (6).

5. A system according to claim 4, in which the recipient (6) is defined by the region affiliation.

6. A system according to claim 4 or 5, in which the recipient (6) is one of said user units (2).

7. A system according to claim 4, 5 or 6, in which the central unit (4) is arranged to attach a predetermined data packet for the recipient (6), which data packet is determined by the region affiliation.

8. A system according to claim 1, 2 or 3, in which the central unit (4) is arranged to store the information which is received from the user unit (2) in a location which is indicated by the region affiliation.

9. A system according to any one of the preceding claims, in which the central unit (4) is arranged to process the information which is received from the user unit (2) in a way which is defined by the region affiliation.

10. A system according to any one of the preceding claims, in which said at least one position is a plurality of positions which define characters and in which the central unit (4) is arranged to convert the received positions to at least one character.

11. A system according to any one of the preceding claims, in which each of the user units (2) has a pen point (17).

12. A system according to any one of the preceding claims, in which each of the user units (2) has a unique user identity and is arranged to include the user identity in the information to the central unit (4).

13. A system according to any one of the preceding claims, further comprising a plurality of products (1) from which said at least one position is recorded.

14. A system according to claim 13, in which a subset (10) of a position-coding pattern, which codes a large number of positions on said imaginary surface (5) is reproduced on each of said products (1), the positions which are recorded by the user units (2) being positions on the imaginary surface (5) and being recorded by means of the subset (10) of the position-coding pattern on the product (1).

15. A system according to claim 14, in which the position-coding pattern is constructed of symbols and each position on said imaginary surface (5) is coded by a predetermined number of symbols, and in which each user unit (2) is arranged to continually record the symbols to provide a description of the movement in the form of coordinates when it is moved across said subset (10) in order to generate the information.

16. A system according to any one of the preceding claims, in which each user unit (2) is arranged to record said information by recording at least two coordinates in

(continued)

(continued claim 16)

coded form for each position, to decode the coded coordinates and to include at least certain of the coordinates in the information to the central unit (4).

17. A system for information management, which system comprises a central unit (4) and a plurality of user units (2) which are arranged to record and send information to the central unit (4), characterized in that

the system further comprises a plurality of products (1) each of which has a subset (10) of a position-coding pattern, which codes a large number of positions on at least one imaginary surface (5),

particulars are stored in the central unit (4) about a plurality of regions (101-105), each of which represents an area on said imaginary surface (5),

each of the user units (2) is arranged to record information which comprises at least one position on the imaginary surface (5) by means of the subset (10) of the position-coding pattern on said product (1), and to send the information to the central unit (4), and

the central unit (4) is arranged, in response to the receipt of the information from a user unit (2), to identify to which region (101-105) said at least one position belongs and to determine how the information is to be managed based on the region affiliation.

09746778-042001

18. A central unit, which is arranged to be incorporated in a system for information management, characterized in that

it comprises a memory (4') in which are stored particulars about a plurality of regions (101-105), each of which corresponds to an area on an imaginary surface (5), and

it is arranged, in response to the receipt of information which contains at least one position on the imaginary surface (5), to determine to which region (101-105) said at least one position belongs and to determine how the information is to be managed based on the region affiliation.

19. A central unit according to claim 18, which for each of said regions (101-105) stores particulars about an owner of the region (101-105).

20. A central unit according to claim 18 or 19, which for each of said regions (101-105) stores rules for how information which is identified as belonging to the region (101-105) is to be managed.

21. A central unit according to claim 18, 19 or 20, which is arranged to forward the information to a recipient (6).

22. A central unit according to any one of claims 18-21, which is arranged to attach a predetermined file with the information for the recipient (6), which file is determined by the region affiliation.

23. A central unit according to any one of claims 18-22, which is arranged to store the information in a location which is indicated by the region affiliation.

24. A central unit according to any one of claims 18-23, which is arranged to process the information in a way which is defined by the region affiliation.

25. A central unit according to claim 24, which is arranged to convert the received positions into at least one character.

26. A method for management of information which is recorded by means of at least one user unit (2), characterized in that

the user unit (2) records the information in such a way that this comprises at least one position, and the user unit (2) sends said information to a central unit (4), and

the central unit (4) which contains particulars about a plurality of regions (101-105) each of which represents an area on at least one imaginary surface (5), in response to the receipt of the information from the user unit (2), identifies to which region (101-105) said at least one position belongs and determines how the information is to be managed based on the region affiliation.

27. A method according to claim 26, in which for each of the regions (101-105) particulars are stored in the central unit (4) about the owner of the region (101-105).

28. A method according to claim 26 or 27, in which for each region (101-105) rules are stored in the central unit (4) for how the information which is identified as belonging to the region (101-105) is to be managed.

29. A method according to claim 26, 27 or 28, in which the central unit (4) forwards the information which is received from the user unit (2) to a recipient (6).

30. A method according to claim 29, in which the recipient (6) is defined by the region affiliation.

31. A method according to claim 29 or 30, in which the central unit (4) sends the information which is received from the user unit (2) back to the user unit (2).

32. A method according to claim 29, 30 or 31, in which the central unit (4) attaches a predetermined data packet for the recipient (6), which data packet is determined by the region affiliation.

33. A method according to claim 26, 27 or 28, in which the central unit (4) stores the information which is received from the user unit (2) in a location which is indicated by the region affiliation.

34. A method according to any one of claims 26-33, in which the central unit (4) processes the information which is received from the user unit (2) in a way which is defined by the region affiliation.

35. A method according to any one of claims 26-34, in which said at least one position is a plurality of

(continued)

(continued claim 35)

positions which define characters, the central unit (4) converting the received positions to at least one character.

36. A method according to any one of claims 26-35, in which each user unit (2) has a unique user identity and includes the user identity in the information which is sent to the central unit (4).

37. A method according to any one of claims 26-36, in which said at least one position is recorded on a product (1).

38. A method according to any one of claims 26-37, in which each of the user units (2) has a pen point (17) which makes a mark on the product (1) during the recording of said at least one position.

39. A method according to claim 37 or 38, in which the product (1) has a subset (10) of a position-coding pattern which codes a large number of positions on said imaginary surface (5), the positions which are recorded by the user units (2) being positions on the imaginary surface (5) and being recorded by means of the subset (10) of the position-coding pattern on the product (1).

40. A method according to claim 39, in which the position-coding pattern is constructed of symbols and each position on said imaginary surface (5) is coded by a predetermined number of symbols, each user unit (2), when it is moved across said subset (10) to generate the

(continued)

09746778.042001

(continued claim 40)

information, continually recording the symbols to provide a description of the movement in the form of coordinates.

41. A method according to any one of claims 24-40, in which the user unit (2) records said information by recording for each position at least two coordinates in coded form, by decoding the coded coordinates and by including at least certain of the coordinates in the information to the central unit (4).

42. A storage medium for digital information which is readable by a computer system, in which the storage medium contains a computer program which comprises instructions for causing a processor (4") to determine, in response to the receipt of information which contains at least one position on an imaginary surface (5), to which region (101-105) on the imaginary surface (5) said at least one position belongs, and to determine how the information is to be managed based on the region affiliation.

43. A user unit for recording information, which user unit is arranged to record at least two coordinates which together define a position, c h a r a c t e r - i z e d in that the user unit is arranged to determine whether the coordinates represent a position in a first or a second area on an imaginary surface (5) and to send a message, which comprises said at least two coordinates, to a predetermined external unit (4) if the position belongs to the first area.

44. A user unit according to claim 43, which consists of a hand-held device, such as a digital pen.

0974678 042001
T00240" 82294260